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### ***Kernan Announces Grants to Train 70 Workers at Three Southeastern Indiana Companies***

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that three southeastern Indiana companies have been awarded training grants from the Indiana Department of Commerce Skills Enhancement Fund to train new employees and retrain existing employees.

"It's always welcome news when Hoosier businesses like these grow and invest in our state," said Kernan, who leads the state's economic development efforts as director of the Department of Commerce. "Whenever a business makes that choice – that's a win; and when, on top of that, they choose to invest in their own workforce – that's an even bigger win. Kelly Dental, Mi-Lin Wood Products and PQ Corp. are all doing that – and we are proud to support them by offering them this assistance."

- **Kelley Dental, Inc.**, New Albany, has been awarded a \$6,200 grant to train four new and 15 incumbent employees as part of the company's \$60,000 investment in equipment upgrades. Kelley Dental was established in 1977, primarily as a crown and bridge laboratory serving only dentists in the local market. Today, Kelley Dental is a full-service lab with implant and cosmetic departments that also offers seminars and workshops on new techniques. Kelley Dental will use the grant to provide employee training in waxing, productivity, problem solving, porcelain course, cosmetic dentistry and dental quality service skills.
- **Mi-Lin Wood Products Corp.**, Paoli, is the recipient of a \$3,000 grant to retrain 30 existing employees following the company's \$94,000 investment in building upgrades. Founded in 1965 with a mission to produce skids for the television and cabinet industries, today the company produces dimension parts for furniture and cabinetmakers. Using the grant, Mi-Lin will provide training in basic math, forklift operation, woodworking machine operation, computerized-numeric-coding, basic electricity skills and lumber grader techniques.

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- **PQ Corp.**, Jeffersonville, received a \$13,000 grant to train employees in two new jobs and 38 existing positions following a company investment of \$2.75 million in building renovations and new equipment. The company was originally founded in Philadelphia in 1831 as a family soap and candle business. The Jeffersonville site was established in 1937, following the opening of a location in Anderson, Ind., in 1889. Today, the business includes sodium silicate, and both sites ship internationally. PQ Corp. will use the grant to offer employees training in forklift and scissor lift operation, AutoCAD, electronics, computer skills and quality control procedures.

The Commerce department awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund or other Commerce programs should contact their regional Commerce office at 800.463.8081 or visit the Web site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).

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